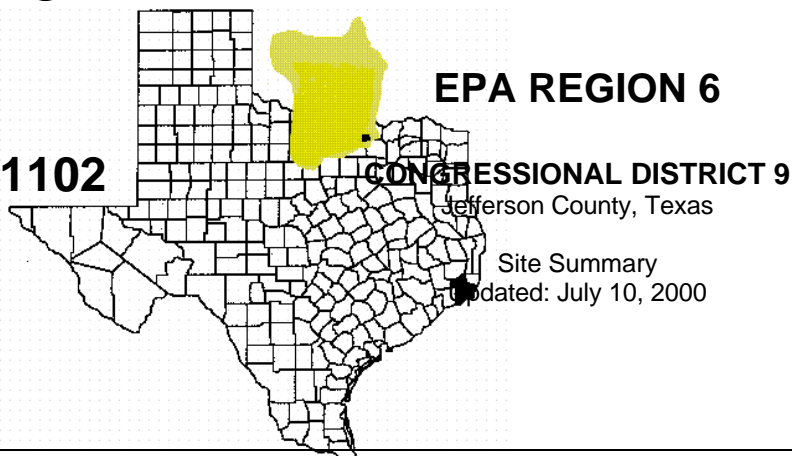


# STATE MARINE OF PORT ARTHUR

EPA ID# TXD099801102



## Site Description

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- Location:**     !     The State Marine of Port Arthur Superfund Site (hereinafter “the Site”) is located in Port Arthur, Texas, on Old Yacht Club Road on Pleasure Islet, a peninsula located approximately ½ mile southwest of the mouth of the Neches River where it enters the Sabine-Neches Canal. The Site is located along Sabine Lake, a 100 mile<sup>2</sup> lake which opens into the Gulf of Mexico.
- Population**     !     Approximately 60,953 people reside in Port Arthur. Other communities in the area include Groves, Nederland, and Port Neches.
- Setting:**       !     The land use surrounding the Site is mostly industrial and recreational. Redfish, drum, speckled trout, and croaker are abundant in Sabine Lake. Crabbing is excellent year-round.
- Hydrology:**     !     The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study being planned for the Site by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will determine the hydrology for the Site, including other Site characteristics.

## Wastes and Volumes

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- !     Sampling results from an Expanded Site Inspection, performed by the State in 1995, indicated the presence of organic and inorganic contaminants in the buried surface impoundments, the former tank area, an area of contaminated soils adjacent to the shoreline of Sabine Lake, and the sediments of Sabine Lake.
- !     Some of the organic contaminants present at the Site include anthracene, phenanthrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, pyrene, chrysene, and naphthalene. Tributyltin (TBT) may also be present at the Site. TBT is an antifouling paint additive frequently used in barge cleaning operations similar to those historically performed at the Site.
- !     Some of the inorganic contaminants present at the Site include antimony, lead, and

mercury.

- ! The nature and extent of contamination at the Site and the risks posed to human health and the environment from the contaminants present at the Site are unknown.

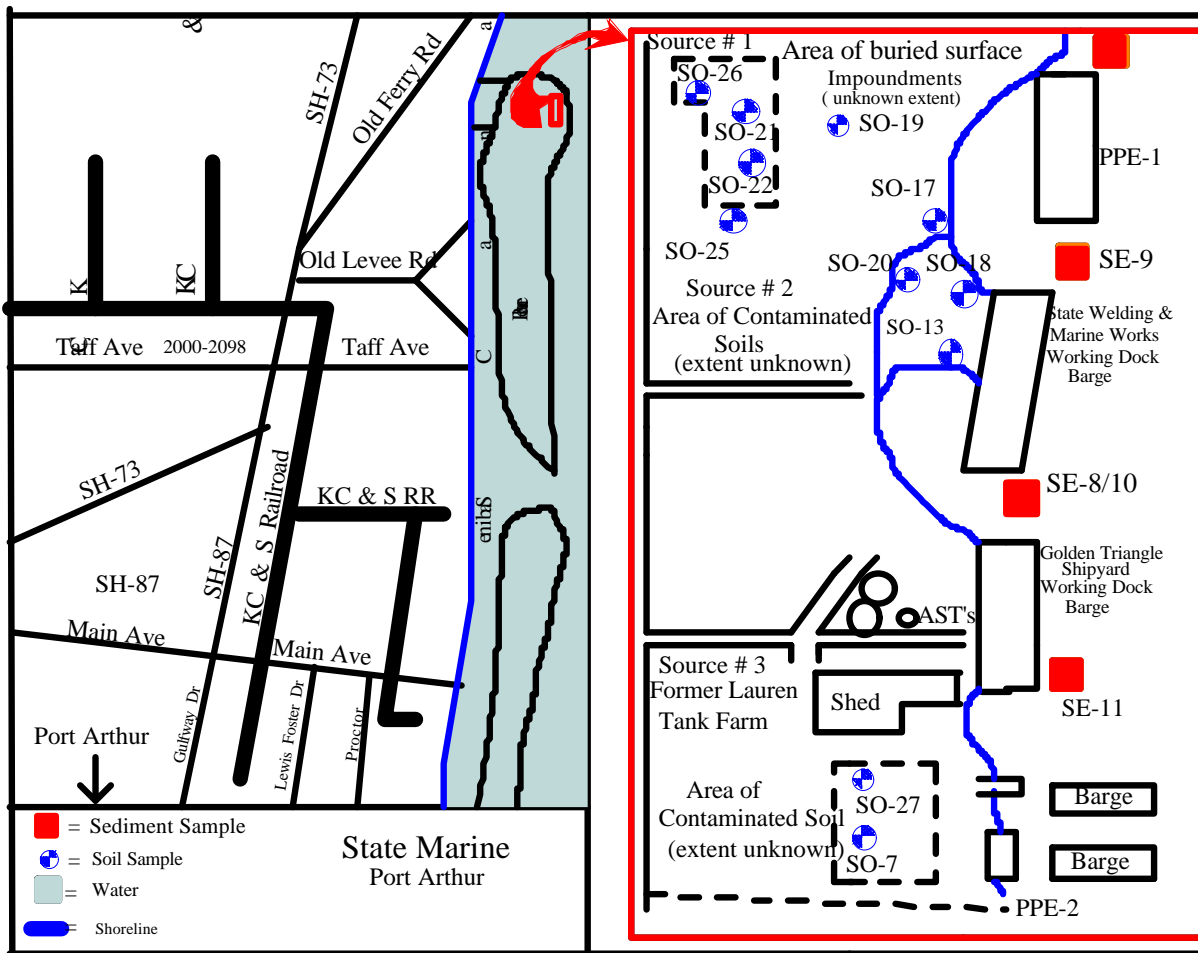
## Site Assessment and Ranking

### NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 3/06/98  
Final Date: 7/28/98 (NPL Update: 21)

## Site Map and Diagram

View site photos at the link at the bottom of the “Superfund Site Status Summaries for Texas” web page (<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/6sf-tx.htm>).



## The Remediation Process

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### Site History:

- ! In 1974, State Marine was issued a wastewater discharge permit from the State to operate a barge cleaning facility for vessels carrying chemical products. The wash water from the operation was allegedly pumped into a wastewater treatment system, which consisted of a wash and cleaning area next to several docks which extended into Sabine Lake, a boiler house which heated the cleaning and wash water with a steam boiler, several vacuum tanks, a vacuum pump, above-ground storage tanks, and an open earthen diked surface impoundment(s) into which the barge chemical wastes and wash water were discharged.

### Health Considerations:

- ! Some of the contaminants present at the Site are known carcinogens.

### Other Environmental Risks:

- ! Sabine Lake is a fishery and is used for recreation. An abundance of wetland areas and a National Wildlife Refuge lie along the banks of the lake and downstream waterways.

## Record of Decision

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A Record of Decision has not been signed for the State Marine of Port Arthur Superfund Site.

## Community Involvement

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- ! Throughout the Superfund process, EPA will conduct a Public Involvement Program that will address the concerns and issues of importance to community members.
- ! Site Repository: United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA Region 6) Library; 1445 Ross Avenue; Suite 1200; Dallas, TX 75202-2733.

## Technical Assistance Grant

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- ! A Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) is for a local citizens' group to secure the services of a technical advisor to increase citizen understanding of information that will be developed about the Site during the Superfund process. By law, only one grant for up to \$50,000

may be awarded to a citizens' group for this Site. To be eligible for a grant, a group must incorporate. Also, the applicant must meet a 20 percent matching requirement, which may be in cash or donated services. If you are interested in applying for a TAG, please call Ms. Beverly Negri (TAG Assistant) at (214) 665-8157 or toll-free at 1-800-533-3508.

- ! Availability Notice: Availability of the TAG was announced in an update titled "State Marine of Port Arthur Site Update" (dated September 11, 1998).
- ! Letters of Intent Received: None to date.
- ! Grant Award: N/A
- ! Current Status: N/A

## Contacts

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### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- ! **Site Assessment Manager:** Mr. William Rhotenberry - (214) 665-8372\*.  
(Primary Contact for Technical Questions)  
E-Mail Address - rhotenberry.william@epa.gov
- ! **Remedial Project Manager:** Mr. Rafael A. Casanova - (214) 665-7437\*.  
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E-Mail Address - casanova.rafael@epa.gov
- ! **Community Involvement:** Mr. Rafael A. Casanova - (214) 665-7437\*.  
(Contact for Community Relations Questions)  
E-Mail Address - casanova.rafael@epa.gov
- ! **Attorney:** Mr. Keith Smith - (214) 665-2157\*.  
(Contact for Legal Questions)  
E-Mail Address - smith.keith@epa.gov
- ! **State Coordinator:** Ms. Karen Bond - (214) 665-6682\*.  
(Contact for State/EPA Agreements)  
E-Mail Address - bond.karen@epa.gov
- ! **Ombudsman:** Mr. Arnold Ondarza - (214) 665-6790\*.  
(Contact for Dispute Resolution)  
E-Mail Address - ondarza.arnold@epa.gov
- ! **\*Toll-Free Number:** 1-800-533-3508.

### Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission

- ! **Project Manager:** Ms. Luda Voskov - (512) 239-6368.  
(Contact for Technical Questions)  
E-Mail Address - lvoskov@tnrcc.state.texas.us

## Present Status and Issues

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- ! A Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) is currently being planned for the Site. The purpose of the RI/FS is to gather sufficient information about the Site to support an informed risk management decision regarding which remedy is the most appropriate for the Site.

- ! EPA issued Special Notice (SN) for an RI/FS to the Owners/Operators of the Site on October 29, 1998. This SN included an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) along with an RI/FS Statement of Work. This SN informed the Owners/Operators of the Site that they are being considered Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) that may be liable for the cleanup of the Site. EPA has requested reimbursement for past costs and a “good-faith offer” from the PRPs to perform the RI/FS with EPA oversight. The PRPs willingness to perform the RI/FS will be documented in the AOC. EPA is currently reviewing the responses to the SN to determine what additional enforcement actions may be warranted at the Site.
- ! EPA has requested information (through a 104[e] Information Request) about the Site from various entities to learn more about the Site and its operations. EPA is currently reviewing this information to determine what additional enforcement actions may be warranted at the Site.
- ! EPA has constructed fencing around the Site to prevent public access, which was currently unrestricted.

## Benefits

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- ! The cleanup of contamination present at the State Marine of Port Arthur Superfund Site will ensure the protection of human health and the environment.